

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element with a succession of overlapping lamellas (3,4) containing sanding grains (9), characterised in that these lamellas (3,4) are alternately formed of sanding lamellas (3) and compressible lamellas (4), whereby each sanding lamella (3) rests on a compressible lamella (4); where an exposed surface is formed by a short side (6) and a long side (7); and where the exposed surface is angled differently than the support (2).

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim 1, characterized in that said sanding lamellas (3) and/or the compressible lamellas (4) are composed of several lamellas of the type concerned; where the sanding lamellas (3) and the compressible lamellas (4) are fixed on the support (2); and where the support (2) is substantially a round disc shape.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Sanding element according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that said compressible lamellas (4) are elastically compressible.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[2]] 2, characterised in that said compressible lamellas (4) have an open structure.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[4]] 2, characterised in that said compressible lamellas contain non-woven fibres (10), more particularly non-woven synthetic fibres.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[5]] 2, characterised in that said sanding grains (9) are provided on said fibres (10).

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[6]] 2, characterised in that said fibres (10) are joined together by a synthetic resin and thus form a three-dimensional open structure.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[7]] 2, characterised in that sanding grains (9) adhere to said fibres (10) by the synthetic resin.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[8]] 2, characterised in that said sanding lamellas (3) are formed of abrasive cloth.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[9]] 2, characterised in that the thickness of said compressible lamellas (4) is at least equal to three times the thickness of said sanding lamellas (3).

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[10]] 2, characterised in that ~~said lamellas (3,4) are fixed on a round, disc-shaped support (2), whereby~~ the free edges (7) of those lamellas (3,4) extend almost radially.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Sanding element according to claim [[11]] 2, wherein the fibres (10) are formed by polyamide yarns between 0.75 millimeters and 0.85 millimeters in diameter.

13–19. (WITHDRAWN BY EXAMINER)